Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Ruth Brandon Norton was born June 3, 1908, at Centerville, South Dakota, joining an older brother and sister, Harry and Audrey, and later joined by a younger brother, Fred; and,

Whereas, Following her high school years in Sioux Falls, Ruth worked as a nanny in Florida and as a secretary in Detroit, Michigan, where she met and married Harry Nelson, the father of their four children: Stewart, Wayne, Marilyn, and Brent; and,

Whereas, Ruth and Harry moved to South Dakota where they farmed during the Great Depression and owned and operated a lumberyard in Chester for a short time prior to Harry's death; and,

Whereas, Ruth was active in senior citizen center activities at both Chester and Madison, enjoyed her church activities, loved playing cards, and crocheted and knitted many blankets and sweaters for their numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren; and,

Whereas, Ruth was fortunate to meet and marry Lawrence Williams, who passed away, and she later married Art Malthesen, whom she also lost to cancer; and,

Whereas, Ruth currently resides at Terrace Manor in Dell Rapids, South Dakota, and will observe her 100th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as her friends and relatives gather to honor her and celebrate her life and the camaraderie of the day; and it is fitting and proper as Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a woman who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 3, 2008, as

RUTH MALTHESEN DAY

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-seventh Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eight.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Teresa J. Bray, Deputy
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State